

Chapter 1

An Epidemic Illness

Read 2 Timothy 3:1 – 5

1. Do these verses accurately describe our culture? Give some examples. Can these verses be used to describe your church? Give some examples? In what ways do these verses describe you?
2. Paul says that there will be people who are lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, yet they still possess a “form of godliness.” What do you think this means? How is this reflected in our culture? In our church?
3. On page 22, Dr. Swanson says, “All of us possess an unwillingness to live authentically in the midst of others.” Do you agree? Why or why not? What are the greatest barriers to living authentically?
4. How can a church foster authenticity in her members? In her leaders?
5. What is the first step we must take to live the abundant life that Jesus promised?
6. What are the things that keep you from spending time with Jesus?
7. Reread the Charles Spurgeon quote on page 26. Have you ever experienced the love of God in this way? How did it change you?